

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KHARTO 02158 120834Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-11 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 COME-00 /040 W
-----079425 121446Z /53

R 120753Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7336
AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO

UNCLAS KHARTOUM 2158

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECON, EAGR, SU
SUBJ: SUDANESE COTTON PRODUCTION - 1977-1978

REF: (A) KHARTOUM 0976 (B) CAIRO 12605

1. WITH VIRTUALLY ALL OF CURRENT COTTON CROP NOW PICKED, COTTON PUBLIC CORPORATION (CPC) ESTIMATES TOTAL CROP AT 875,000 BALES. THIS REPRESENTS SLIGHT INCREASE OVER PREVIOUS YEAR, BUT REDUCTION FROM PREVIOUS ESTIMATES. PRODUCTION OF LONG STAPLE VARIEPES SHOULD TOTAL ABOUT 400,000 BALES; MEDIUM STAPLE HAS ALREADY BEEN BALED (ROUGHLY 450,000); AND SHORT STAPLE IS NEARLY 30,000.

2. PRICES FOR THE MEDIUM STAPLE HAVE BEEN FIRM, AND LONG STAPLE PRICES, WHICH WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY CPC ON MAY 16, MAY BE 10-12 PERCENT HIGHER THAN LAST YEAR. IN TOTAL, FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNINGS, ASSUMING NO TRANSPORT DIFFICULTIES AND NO PRICE SLIPPAGE, SHOULD BE ABOUT \$350 MILLION, ABOUT \$50 MILLION MORE THAN 1977.

3. WE HAVE HAD CONFLICTING REPORTS ABOUT SUDANESE COTTON SALES TO EGYPT. THE DIRECTOR OF THE COTTON PUBLIC TOLD EMBOFFS THAT SUDAN HAD BARTERED 47,000 BALES AT 63 CENTS
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PER POUND FOR EGYPTIAN PETROLEUM PRODUCTS. THIS WOULD MEAN A BARTER TRANSACTION OF ABOUT 12-13 MILLION DOLLARS. HOWEVER, THE LOCAL PRESS REPORTED A BARTER TRANSACTION OF 6 MILLION DOLLARS FOR EGHPTIAN CRUDE.
BERGUS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COTTON, PRODUCTION DATA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KHARTO02158
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780202-0487
Format: TEL
From: KHARTOUM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780565/aaaacdep.tel
Line Count: 60
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f5dc16a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 KHARTOUM 976, 78 CAIRO 12605
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2709696
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUDANESE COTTON PRODUCTION - 1977-1978
TAGS: ECON, EAGR, EPAP, SU
To: STATE ALEXANDRIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f5dc16a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014